MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members :

Mr. S. Chattanatha Karayalar
" S. Krishna Aiyar
" K. C. Karunakaran
" M. L. Janardana Pillai
" T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
" Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai
" S. Narayana Pillai
" T. M. Verughese
" M. Kesava Panickar
" A. J. John
" K. T. Thomas
" Kannara Gopala Panickar
" E. Subrahmanya Aiyar
" A. Thanu Pillai
" Thariathu Kunjithommen
" N. Ramakrishna Pillai
" N. V. Joseph
" N. Velu Achary
" Joseph Vithayathil
" J. E. A. Pereira
" K. G. Kunjukrishna Pillai
" K. George
Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar and myself (*Convener.*)

The Committee is to report within 5 days.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Director of Public Instruction*): I second it.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

ELECTION TO THE SENATE OF THE TRAVANCORE UNIVERSITY.

PRESIDENT: The voting will be by the non-official members alone, and by the ordinary method. Messrs. Chattanatha Karayalar, Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai and T. M. Verughese will act as scrutineers. The voting papers were collected and handed over to the scrutineers for scrutiny outside the Assembly Hall.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

RE: DISTRESS CAUSED BY THE UNPRECEDENTED DROUGHT IN SOUTH TRAVANCORE.

PRESIDENT: There are 4 notices of motions on the matter. Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar always has very definite points. (*Laughter*). I shall therefore call upon him to move his motion.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Tovala* cum *Agastisvaram*): I beg to make the following motion:

"This Assembly begs to bring to the notice of the Government, the extreme hardship caused to the ryots of the areas commanded by the Kodayar Project because of the recent failure of rain and insufficiency of water in the Pechipara Reservoir and careless distribution of water in irrigating the wet lands assessed to land tax."

Sir, there are 4 points in this motion, (1) extreme hardship caused to the ryots, (2) recent failure of rains, (3) insufficiency of water in the Pechipara Reservoir, and (4) careless distribution of water. I shall first deal with (2) and (3).

PRESIDENT: Far be it from me to curtail debate on a matter of this kind. But, under the Rules, no speech on any adjournment motion shall exceed 15 minutes, so that, Mr. Nadar will no doubt distribute those 15 minutes between the 4 topics he has just now adverted to.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: It is admitted, Sir, that during the last 12 or 15 years, the water in the Reservoir has never been sufficient to irrigate the wet lands in the Tovala, Agastisvaram and Kalkulam taluks. I shall give some figures. The level of water in the Reservoir has been as follows on the dates mentioned:

16th June 1937	...	1·81 feet.
27th June	...	3·5 ,,
4th July	...	3·40 ,,
25th September	...	·95 ,,
25th December	...	95 ,,

That was the time when His Highness the Maharaja and the Dewan visited Cape Comorin. On 9-6-1113 it was 3·25 feet. Today, I think it is a little more than zero.

PRESIDENT: More than zero, or less than zero. (*Laughter.*)

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: I will not be surprised, Sir, if it is less than zero just now. (*Laughter*)

Sir, there has been very scanty rainfall. I do not blame the Government for that. If we examine the position during the last 30 years, rainfall in South Travancore has been becoming less and less. Sir, the Executive Engineer, Nagercoil, has contributed an article to the Sri Chitra All-India Exhibition Guide of the year 1934. There, he says—

"The annual rainfall in the catchment area at the time of the construction of the Reservoir was 166 inches. Between 1907 and 1935 it has dwindled down to 87·3 inches."

Now, what is to be done? A supplemental Reservoir is an imperative necessity. The most useful scheme for a supplemental reservoir is the Perunchani Scheme. It may cost something like Rs. 20 or 30 lakhs,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Industrial concerns should be run on commercial basis. But, for agricultural purposes it is not necessary that it should be run on commercial basis. It is expected by every civilised Government and particularly by the Congress Government that agricultural projects need not be run on commercial lines. Only the indirect advantage accrued to the State need be observed. Whether there is a profit of 6 or 8 per cent., that is a different question.

PRESIDENT : That principle was laid down by Raja Rajendra Chola as early as 1820.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR : His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore is reported to have said these words. I will read one or two sentences.

"There was a time when we hesitated to undertake a work unless it promised a return of 6 per cent. on the capital invested. In these days we take a somewhat different view. We look for our interest not only in the return to the treasury but also in the wealth and happiness of the ryots".

It is quite necessary that the Government should make up their mind to proceed with the Perinchani project immediately.

As regards the careless distribution of water, I will say only one or two things. Some four months back, the water in Pechipara Reservoir was 30 to 32 feet deep. All the agriculturists in Nanjinad thought that that water would be sufficient. But due to the careless distribution of water, of the extravagant expenditure of water, it was found to be insufficient. The Maistries and watchers there are generally subsidised by agriculturists and they spend water unnecessarily. If the water was properly spent, I am of opinion that 30 feet of water would have been quite sufficidnt to irrigate all the lands. But they hav carelessly distributed the water. There are statutory provisions to avoid careless distribution of water. There is a central organisation composed of the Division Peishkar, Trivandrum and the Executive Engineer, Nagercoil. who should conduct at least four meetings in a year. But in 1111, the Division Peishkar, Trivandrum, Mr. N. S. Raman Pillai, has conducted only one meeting. In 1112 I understand that he has conducted no meeting ar all, Even supposing that meetings are conducted, he does not give any importance to what the members of the Central Board say. The functions of the Central Board are to consider and make recommendations on the following matters *viz* —

(*a*) the date of opening and closing of the Kodayar Reservoir and the channels ;

(*b*) the supply of water to the several major tanks and channels;

(*c*) the distribution of water to the several puravus or karas or blocks ;

(*d*) the representations made by the Block Boards ;

(*e*) the references made to them regarding the disposal of tanks and tank-beds ;

(*f*) the measures calculated to bring as much land as possible under cultivation in the commanded area ; and

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. Narayanaperumal Nadar]

(*g*) all matters tending to enhance the utility and successful working of irrigation under the Kodayar scheme and to express an opinion on all irrigation matters that may be referred to the Board by Government.

If the Central Board members were consulted at least four times in the year there would not have been any extravagance of water. The 30 feet of water would have been quite sufficient. Therefore because of the recent failure of rain and insufficiency of water and careless distribution of water, the Government must see that a new reservoir is constructed as early as possible.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE (*Ambalapuzha cum Shertala*): May I know whether there is any such Board now?

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Yes, there is a Central Irrigation Board,

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: May I know who are the members of that Board?

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: I do not yield.

PRESIDENT: The member having yielded his place cannot change his mind.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: I do not know.

MR. S. SESHA AIYAR (*Deputy Chief Engineer*): The Central Irrigation Board does not exist now.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: I beg to differ from him. (*Laughter*). I will deal with that point later.

Here is an article from the Editor of "The Tamilian." He is one P. Chidambaram Pillai. He was a member of this House. I will read only three or four sentences.

> "If and when the Kumbhom crop of 1113 fails, as almost to a certainty, it is going to fail, South Travancore will go without paddy till Kanni 1114 which means that from Kumbhom 1112 the South Travancoreans will have proved themselves unable to produce for nearly twenty months enough food for their own existence, as the Kanni crop of 1113 was a total failure more or less, as regards converted lands and partial failure as regards the Ayacaut lands"
>
> "The loss to the South Travancore agriculturists may be approximately between thirty to thirty five lakhs of rupees within these twenty months."
>
> "They could not live upon herbs and roots and they did not."
>
> "Nearly seven lakhs of people may have to starve, unless promtth remedial measures are taken in hand immediately. But the South Travancoreans must organize themselves and make themselves felt in the body politic."

The condition of the peasant is very deplorable. Help should be rendered or it is like killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

With these words, I commend the motion to the acceptance of the House.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Sivathanu Pillai!

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I feel I am rather in a very disadvantageous position at present particularly having been called to speak by the President at this stage after the House has gone into a light mood.

PRESIDENT: Does the member like to speak latter?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I would like to speak later. My name appears in the bottom of the list.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vaicod*) : സർ, ദക്ഷിണതിരുവിതാംക്കൂറിലെ കർഷകക്ക് അധപതനം ഇപ്പോൾമാത്രം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല. പാരമ്പര്യമായി നമ്മുടെ മഹാരാജാക്കന്മാർ ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുകയും തൽപരിഹാരാർത്ഥം പല പദ്ധതികളും നടപ്പിലാക്കാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ സമീപകാലത്ത് ജലദൌർല്ലഭ്യംമൂലം അവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾ ക്ഷോഭിക്കുകയും പത്രങ്ങളിലും മറ്റും ആ വിഷയം പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിക്കുകയും ഈശ്വരനെ പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുകയും മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സ്കൊണ്ട് നേരിട്ട് എഴുന്നെള്ളി തുക്കൺപാക്കുകയും ചെയ്യണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തതിന്റെ ഫലമായി സചിവോത്തമൻ സർ. സി. പി. രാമസ്വാമിഅയ്യർ അവർകളും മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സ്കൊണ്ടും മഹാറാണിതിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടും മറ്റു രാജകുടുംബാംഗങ്ങളും അവിടെ എഴുന്നള്ളിയ അവസരത്തിൽ ഞാൻ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട കൃഷിക്കാരായ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് അത്യധികമായ സന്തോഷമുണ്ടാകുകയും നിഷ്ക്കളങ്കമായ ഞങ്ങളുടെ ധ്യാനത്തിനു ശരിയായ പരിഹാരം സിദ്ധിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. അതായത് മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ട് അവിടെ എഴുന്നെള്ളുന്നു എന്നു അറിഞ്ഞ സപ്തദിവസങ്ങൾക്കുമുമ്പ് യഥാർത്ഥമായ നന്മ ചെയ്യണമെന്ന് ഉദ്ദേശിച്ച ആ മഹാനുഭാവന്റെ ആ സ്ഥലത്തേക്കുള്ള വരവിനു് ഏതാനും മിനിട്ടുകൾക്കുമുമ്പ് പെട്ടെന്നു അവിടെ ഒരു മഴ ഉണ്ടായി. ആ മഴ യഥാർത്ഥത്തിലുള്ള ഞങ്ങളുടെ സങ്കടംകണ്ട് ദൈവത്തിന്റെ അനുഗ്രഹം കൊണ്ടുണ്ടായതാണെന്നു ആ അവസരത്തിൽ ഇടനാട്ടുവച്ചുകൂടിയ മീറ്റിങ്ങിൽ ഞാൻ തന്നെ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. യാഥാർത്ഥത്തിൽ ദക്ഷിണതിരുവിതാംക്കൂറിലെ കർഷകരുടെ സങ്കടം ഇന്നാട്ടുപത്തിലാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞറിയിക്കാൻ വളരെ പ്രയാസമാണ്. നല്ല നിലയിൽ ജീവിക്കുന്നു എന്നു പറയുന്ന വീട്ടുകളിലെ സ്വർണ്ണഉരുപ്പടികളെല്ലാം ബാങ്കുകളിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയാണ്. കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടുപത്തുവർഷമായി ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള കരക്കുടിശ്ശിക കൊടുത്തുതീർക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലാതെ അവരുടെ വസ്തുക്കളെല്ലാം ധാരാളമായി ലേലത്തിൽ വിറ്റുപോകുന്നുണ്ടു. വിളവംകോട്ടതാലൂക്കിൽ ലേലം പിടിക്കാൻ ആളില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ഒരു ചക്രം തുക നിശ്ചയിച്ച ഗവണ്മെന്റു തന്നെ ലേലത്തിൽ പിടിക്കുന്നു. കരകൃഷിയിൽനിന്നും യാതൊരാദായവും ലഭിക്കുന്നില്ല. അവിടത്തെ തെങ്ങുകളെല്ലാം വരണ്ടും പനകളിൽ പാളവരാതേയും ഇരിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു പരിതസ്ഥിതിയിൽ എത്രകാലം കഴിയുമെന്നു നിശ്ചയിക്കാൻ യാതൊരു നിവൃത്തിയും കാണുന്നില്ല.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

അതുകൊണ്ടു ആ വിഷയത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഇവിടെ അധികം വർണ്ണിക്കുന്നില്ല.

കോതയാർ പ്രോജക്ട്കൊണ്ടു അവിടത്തെ സങ്കടത്തിനു ശാശ്വതമായ ഒരു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കിത്തരണമെന്നു ഞങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കയാണു. ഇന്നും അതു തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ ഇരിക്കുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനെ വിശ്വവിശ്രുതമാക്കിത്തീർത്ത ശ്രീചിത്തിരതിരുനാൾ മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു, അനേകവർഷങ്ങളായി സങ്കടം അനുഭവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ദക്ഷിണതിരുവിതാംകൂറുകാരുടെ ശാശ്വതമായ നന്മക്കുവേണ്ടി ഏതാനും സംഖ്യ ചെലവാക്കാത്ത പക്ഷം അവിടത്തെ കൃഷിക്കാർ നാടുവിട്ടു അന്യസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ അഭയം പ്രാപിക്കാൻ നിർബന്ധരായി തീരുന്നതാണു. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ക്ഷാമം മഴയുടെ കുറവുകൊണ്ടാണു അവിടെയുണ്ടാകുന്നതു്. അതിലേക്കു് ശരിയായ വിധത്തിലുള്ള ജലസേചനപദ്ധതികൾ നിർമ്മിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടി അന്നിരുന്ന ദിവാൻജിമാർ വേണ്ടവിധത്തിലുള്ള പദ്ധതികൾ രൂപീകരിക്കുകയും ക്യാപ്റ്റൻ ഹോർസ്ലി മുതലായ വിദഗ്ദ്ധന്മാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം ചോദിച്ചു റിപ്പോർട്ടുകൾ തയാറാക്കുകയും ചെയ്തുഎങ്കിലും ഭരണകേന്ദ്രത്തിൽ തുടരെ വന്നിട്ടുള്ള മാറ്റം കൊണ്ടും വിദഗ്ദ്ധന്മാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസംകൊണ്ടും ആ പദ്ധതികൾക്കു പലവിധത്തിലുള്ള ദോഷങ്ങളും സംഭവിക്കുകയും ഫലപ്രദമായിവരാൻ സാധിക്കാതെവരികയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ദയാപുരസ്സരം ക്രൂടതൽ റിസർവയറുകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കി കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നിറവേറാത്തക്കവണ്ണം പെരുമ്പാണി, കായക്കര, മാമ്പള്ളിത്തണ, ഓലക്കുഴി, തടവയാർ, കോതയാർ, ചിറ്റാർ, മുല്ലയാർ, നെയ്യാർ, എന്നിങ്ങനെയുള്ള ജലാശയങ്ങളിൽക്കൂടി വെറുതെ പോകുന്ന വെള്ളത്തെ തടഞ്ഞുനിർത്തി വിളവംകോട്ടു് നെയ്യാറിൻകര മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലെ കൃഷിസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കൂടെവിട്ടുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതായിട്ടാണു് ഞങ്ങൾ ആശിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള അന്വേഷണത്തിനായി ൨൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എങ്കിലും അതിൽ ചില തടസ്സങ്ങൾക്കലായ ചില കുഴപ്പങ്ങളും ഉള്ളതായി അറിയുന്നുണ്ടു്. കുഴിത്തുറ ആറിൻറെ വടക്കെഅതിർത്തിയും വടക്കൻ പറമ്പും മൈനർ ഇറിഗേഷൻ പദ്ധതിയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തീട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതു

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

പാറശ്ശാലവരെ നാഗർകോവിൽ ഡിവിഷനാഫീസറുടെ പരിധിയിൽ വന്നിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. നാഞ്ചിനാടും ഇടനാടും എന്നുള്ള ഗവണ്മെൻറുത്തരവിന്റെ താല്പര്യത്തിനു വിപരീതമായി കുഴിത്തുറ ആറിനു മേക്കും പാറശാലക്കു കിഴക്കുമുള്ള ഇടനാടുഭാഗം കൊല്ലം ഡിവിഷനാഫീസറുടെ പരിധിയിൽ വന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ആ സ്ഥലത്തെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള അന്വേഷണത്തിനു് അസൌകര്യം വന്നുചേർന്നു. ഇങ്ങിനെ വന്നുചേർന്ന അസൌകര്യത്തെ ഉടനടി പരിഹരിച്ചുതരണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു് പ്രത്യേകം അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

വിളവംകോട്ട്, നെയ്യാറിങ്കര ഉൾപ്പെട്ട സ്ഥലങ്ങളെക്കുടി കോതയാർ പ്രോജക്റ്റിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയാണു് മുമ്പിലത്തെ പദ്ധതി നിർമ്മിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു. നെയ്യാറിങ്കരയുള്ള ആളുകളെല്ലാം അവിടെ കോതയാറണയിലെ വെള്ളം വരുന്നകാലത്തു കരം കുട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു പട്ടയത്തിൽ അന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അന്നത്തെ റൈറുബ്രാങ്കു ചാനലിനെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചുലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കിട്ടുണ്ടു്. മേക്കുംകാലിൽ കൂടുതൽ ജലത്തിനു സൌകര്യമില്ലെന്നുകണ്ടു അതിനെ അടച്ചുകളഞ്ഞു. അവിടെ ഊറ്റു ഇല്ലെന്നു പറയുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. കോതയാർ അണയിൽനിന്നും, 20 മൈൽ അകലത്തിനു മൈലേജും ബാറായും കൊടുത്തു തോവാളക്കു വെള്ളം കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനു പകരം പെരുഞ്ചാണി, തടവയാർ എന്നിവയിൽനിന്നും സുലഭമായി വെള്ളം കിട്ടുന്നതാണു്. ഫസ്റ്റ് ക്രോപ്പ് ഏക്കറിൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ സ്ഥലം കളങ്ങളെ ലേലത്തിൽ വിറവ തിരിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നതിനു പൊന്നുംവില കൊടുക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ 20 ലക്ഷം രൂപയാകും. വെള്ളം തടഞ്ഞു നിറുത്തുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യമുള്ള മലംപ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ ചെറിയ ബണ്ടുകളിട്ടു അവയെ കുളമാക്കിയാൽ ഈ ഫസ്റ്റ് ക്രോപ്പ് ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലത്തിനു പകരം ആവശ്യമുള്ള വെള്ളം കിട്ടുകയും അവിടെ കൂടുതൽ കുളങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാകയും തൻനിമിത്തം നാഞ്ചിനാട്ടെ കൃഷിക്കു ആവശ്യമുള്ള വെള്ളത്തിനു കുറവു കൂടാതെ ഇരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതാണു്. ഇപ്രകാരം പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതായാൽ കോതയാർ അണയിൽ എപ്പോഴും കൂടുതൽ വെള്ളം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതാണു്. ചിറ്റാർ മുതലായ പദ്ധതികളെക്കുടി ഏറ്റുക്കെയാണെങ്കിൽ നെയ്യാറിങ്കര താല്ക്കിലേക്കും വെള്ളം കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതാണു്. നാഞ്ചിനാട്ടുകാക്കു തന്നെ വെള്ളം കിട്ടാതിരിക്കുന്നസ്ഥിതിക്കു ഇടനാട്ടുകാക്കു എങ്ങിനെ വെള്ളം കിട്ടാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നു സാധാരണയായി ചിലർ പറയുന്നുണ്ടു്. സംഗതികളുടെ ശരിയായ പരിജ്ഞാനമില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണു് ഇങ്ങി

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

നെയുള്ള അഭിപ്രായങ്ങാം പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളുവിക്കുന്നതു്. തേനീച്ച കാം ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നു മാത്രമായിട്ടല്ല തേൻ ശേഖരിക്കുന്നതു്. പല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും തേൻ ശേഖരിച്ചു വച്ചിട്ടു മഴക്കാലത്തുതങ്ങളുടെ സന്താനങ്ങാംക്കു അതു നെ കൊടുക്കുന്നു. ഈ സ്ഥിതിക്കു വിശേഷബുദ്ധിയുള്ള മനുഷ്യൻ വിചാരിച്ചാൽ എന്തുതന്നെ ചെയ്യുകുടാ. പ്രത്യേകമായിട്ടുള്ള ക്യാച്ച്മെൻറു ഏറിയാകാം കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിലാണു വിദഗ്ദ്ധന്മാരുടെ സാമർത്ഥ്യം പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതു്. കൃഷ്ണാ, ഗോദാവരി മുതലായ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ അയിരം ചതുരശ്രമൈൽ കണക്കിനുള്ള ക്യാച്ച്മെൻറു ഏറിയാകാം കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആ സ്ഥിതിക്കു ൨൫൦ ചതുരശ്രമൈൽസ്ഥലത്തുള്ള ക്യാച്ച്മെൻറു ഏറിയാകാം കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിനു എന്താണു് വിഷമം. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ വിശാലമായ മലംപ്രദേശങ്ങളിലെ ഉയന്നഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ ഉള്ള ക്യാച്ച്മെൻറു ഏറിയാകാം കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചു അവിടെയുള്ള ജലത്തെ കെട്ടിനിത്തി സാധുക്കളായ കൃഷിക്കാക്കു ഉപകരിക്കത്തക്കവിധത്തിൽ ആക്കിത്തീർത്തു പൊതുജനരക്ഷ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. താഴ്ന്ന പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ നൈകയ്യുള്ള സ്ഥലത്തു കൂടുതൽ കുളങ്ങാം ഉണ്ടാക്കണം. അതിനെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള ഒരു സ്കീം ഞാൻതന്നെ തയ്യാറാക്കി ഗവണ്മെൻറിലേക്കു സമർപ്പിക്കുകയും അതിന്റെ ഒരു കാപ്പി ഡെവലപ്മെൻറു് ബോർഡിലേക്കു അയക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സൌകര്യങ്ങാം ചെയ്യാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു കൃഷിസംബന്ധമായി വലിയവലിയ നഷ്ടങ്ങാം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള കുളങ്ങാംകൊണ്ടു കൃഷിക്കു സൗകര്യപ്പെടുത്താവുന്നതായി ൧൦,൦൦൦ ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം നാഞ്ചിനാട്ടുമാത്രംതന്നെയുണ്ടു്. ഒരേക്കർ കൃഷിസ്ഥലത്തിനു ൫൦ രൂപാവീതം ൧൦,൦൦൦ ഏക്കർ കൃഷിസ്ഥലത്തിനു ൫൦ ലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചിലപ്പാനംരൂപാ കൃഷിവിഷയമായി ഇപ്പോാം നഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയാണു. കോതയാർ പ്രോജക്റ്റിനുവേണ്ടി മൊത്തത്തിൽ ചിലവായതു മുപ്പതുലക്ഷം രൂപയാണു്. ഈ ൧൦,൦൦൦ ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം കൃഷിക്കായി ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്താത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ഒരുലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചിലപ്പാനം രൂപാ ആണ്ടുതോറും വരവിനത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിനു നഷ്ടം വന്നുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയാണു് ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഈ കണക്കിനു ഒരു മൂന്നുവർഷത്തെ കണക്കെടുത്തു നോക്കിയാൽ ഓരോ വ്യക്തിക്കും ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിയ്ക്കുന്ന നഷ്ടത്തിനും പുറമെ ഒരു ഭീമമായ സംഖ്യ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിനും നഷ്ടം വന്നുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നതാണു്.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ഞങ്ങളുടെ താലൂക്കിൽ കുടിക്കാൻ വെള്ളം കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. കോളറാ മുതലായ മഹാമാരി വന്നു ലക്ഷക്കണക്കിനുള്ള ആളുകളെ ആണ്ടുതോറും കൊന്നൊടുക്കുന്നു. ഇതിലേക്കുവേണ്ടി ഗവണ്മെണ്ട് ഒരു വമ്പിച്ച തുക ചിലവാക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇതിൽ കൂടുതൽ പ്രാധാന്യമുള്ള ഒരു കാര്യം തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ വേറെ ഇല്ലെന്നതന്നെ പറയാം.

ഒന്നയ്യാറിൻകര, വിളവംകോട്, കൽക്കുളം മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലെ ചാനൽ ലൈനുകളിൽ അണകെട്ടിയും കാണ്ടൂർ ലൈനിനു മുകളിലുള്ള നിലങ്ങളിലെ ജലസൌകര്യത്തിനു മാനാമാരിയിൽനിന്നുമുള്ള വെള്ളത്തെ കെട്ടിനിറുത്തത്തക്കവിധത്തിലുള്ള കുളങ്ങൾ വെട്ടിച്ചും ആ കുളങ്ങളെ ചാനലുകളുമായി ബന്ധിപ്പിച്ചും കൃഷിസൌകര്യത്തെ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾ ഇടനാട്ടുവച്ച് കർഷകരോടുചെയ്ത വിലയേറിയ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി തെക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ സർവ്വകൃഷിക്കാരും യോജിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഇപ്രകാരം ശാശ്വതമായ നന്മ ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന പ്രവർത്തികൾ ചെയ്താൽ മാത്രമെ അതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രായോഗികമായ പ്രയോജനം സിദ്ധിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ വിധഗ്ദ്ധന്മാരുടെ അതിനെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള അഭിപ്രായം തീരെ അടിസ്ഥാനമില്ലാത്തതാണ്. വിദേശങ്ങളിൽ വല്ല റോഡുകളൊമറ്റൊമാത്രംവെട്ടിച്ചു പരിചയം കിട്ടിയിട്ടുള്ള എൻജനീയർമാരുടെ കയ്യിൽ ഞങ്ങളെയും ഈ പദ്ധതികളെയും ഏൽപ്പിക്കാതെ ഇൻഡ്യയിലും മറ്റു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലുമുള്ള പല ഇറിഗേഷൻപദ്ധതികൾ കണ്ടിട്ടുള്ളയാളും പല പദ്ധതികൾക്കും ഹേതുഭൂതനുമായ ദിവാൻപ്രസിഡൻറവർകൾക്ക് ഞങ്ങളുടെമേൽ പ്രത്യേകം കരുണയുണ്ടായി തെക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ കർഷകർക്ക് ശാശ്വതമായ നന്മ ഉണ്ടാക്കിത്തരണമെന്ന് ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകമായി അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

ഞങ്ങൾക്കു കരം ഇളവുചെയ്തു തരണ്ടതു വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരുകാര്യമാണ്. അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യണമെന്ന ചട്ടമുണ്ട്. കരിവു നിലങ്ങളുടെ പട്ടിക ഈ മാസം ഫസ്-ാനക്കുമുൻപു എടുത്തയക്കണമെന്ന് വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ കരിവു എഴുതുന്നവിഷയത്തിൽ റവന്യൂ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ വളരെ അക്രമം പ്രവർത്തിച്ചുവരുന്നുണ്ട്. നെല്ലിൽ മണിപിടിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ കരിവു എഴുതുകയില്ല. വാസ്തവത്തിൽ മണിപിടിച്ചിരുന്നാൽതന്നെയും അതിൽ ഒന്നും കാണുകയില്ല. പനിനീർ തളിക്കുംപോലെയുള്ള മഴ ഉണ്ടായതുകൊണ്ട് നെല്ല് വളരുകയില്ല.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

മഴയില്ലങ്കിൽ നെല്ലിന്റെ അകത്തുള്ള പാൽ ഉറയ്ക്കാതെ ചാവിയായി പോകും. ഇങ്ങനെ കാണുന്ന നിയമങ്ങൾക്ക് ദയവില്ലാത്ത ഈ റവന്യൂ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ കരിവെഴുതുന്നില്ല. ന്യായമായി കരിവെഴുതേണ്ട നിലമുടമസ്ഥന്മാർ എല്ലാവരുംതന്നെ കരിവെഴുതി കിട്ടണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുവരുന്നില്ല. സ്ത്രീകൾ, കുട്ടികൾ, എഴുത്തറിയാൻ പാടില്ലാത്തവർ, മലംപനിപിടിച്ചു കിടപ്പിലായവർ, ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരാരുംതന്നെ അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ടി അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നില്ല. അപേക്ഷിച്ചാൽതന്നെയും റവന്യൂഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ശരിയായി കരിവെഴുതി അയക്കുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു വിളവുണ്ടെന്നു കാണുന്ന എല്ലാ നിലങ്ങൾക്കും കരം ഇളവുചെയ്തില്ലെങ്കിലും അവയിൽ ഒന്നു പകുതിക്കെങ്കിലും കരം ഇളവുചെയ്യുതരണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനോട് അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

കിണറുകൾ വെട്ടിക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി ദയവായി ആലോചിച്ചു് ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു സ്പെഷ്യൽ സ്റ്റാഫിനേയും ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനേയും അവിടെ അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ ഞാൻ ചെന്നുകണ്ടു് കിണർ കുഴിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം എവിടെയെല്ലാം ഉണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റി അദ്ദേഹവുമായി സംസാരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. കരിങ്കൽ എന്ന സ്ഥലത്തു ഏതാണ്ടു് അടി താഴ്ത്തി ഒരു കിണർ കുഴിച്ചിട്ടു് അതിൽ വെള്ളമില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെ രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ ലക്ഷംരൂപ ചെലവാക്കി ആ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കിണറുകൾ വെട്ടിച്ചാലും അവിടെ ഇറിഗേഷൻ ചാനൽ ഉല്പാദിക്കുന്നാൽ കിണറുകളിൽ വെള്ളം കാണുകയില്ലെന്നുള്ളതു് നിശ്ചയമാണു്. തിരുവിതാംകോട്ടു ചാനലിനെ കവിയല്ലൂർവഴി നട്ടാലത്തും തിപ്രമലയും ഏലാകളിൽ ചാനൽ അതിലേ കൊണ്ടുപോയാൽ അവിടത്തെ കിണറുകളിൽ പത്തടി വെള്ളംകിട്ടാൻ യാതൊരു പ്രയാസവുമില്ല. ഭൂമിയുടെ മുകളിൽകൂടി വെള്ളംപൊയ്ക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നാൽ അധികം താഴ്ചയിൽ പോകാതെതന്നെ വെള്ളം കിട്ടുന്നതാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് കിണറുവെട്ടിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സ്പെഷ്യൽ സ്റ്റാഫിനെ ഇറിഗേഷൻ സെക്ഷനിൽകൂടി ചേർത്തു് ചാനലും കിണറും വെട്ടിക്കുന്നതിനു സഹകരിപ്പെടുത്തണം.

വിളവംകോടുതാലൂക്കിൽ ഇരുപതിനായിരംരൂപ മൈനർ ഇറിഗേഷൻ വേലകൾക്കായി അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഞാൻ ഇന്നലെ ചോദിച്ച ഒരു ചോദ്യത്തിനു് കഴിഞ്ഞയാണ്ടിൽ അവിടെ മൈനർഇറിഗേഷൻ വേലകൾക്കായി നാലായിരംരൂപ ചെലവാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ടു് എന്നു മറുപടി പറഞ്ഞു. അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഇരുപതിനായിരം രൂപക്കും ചെലവാക്കി

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

യ നാലായിരംരൂപക്കും തമ്മിൽ എന്തു വ്യത്യാസമുണ്ടെന്നു ആക്ഷം മന സ്സിലാക്കാവുന്നതാണു്. വടക്കൻ പറവൂരിലും വിളവംകോട്ടതാലൂക്കിലും മൈനർഇറിഗേഷൻവേലകൾക്കായി ചെലവാക്കുന്ന തുക ഒരേമാതിരിയാ ണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അവിടെ അൻപതിനായിരം രൂപ ചെലവാക്കുന്നെങ്കിൽ ഞങ്ങളുടെ താലൂക്കിൽ അതിൽ കൂടുതൽതുക ചെലവാക്കേണ്ടതാണു. വടക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തിനു തക്ക വിധത്തിൽ പണം ചെലവാക്കേണ്ട എന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഈ വിഷ യത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധപതിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

കൃഷി ഇട്ടിട്ടില്ലാത്ത 'ഫാലോ'ലാൻഡിനു കരം ഇളവുചെയ്യണ മെന്നു ചട്ടമില്ല. അനേകം ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം മഴയില്ലാത്തതിനാൽ കൃഷി ചെയ്യാതെ 'ഫാലോ'ലാൻഡായി കിടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള 'ഫാ ലോ'ലാൻഡിനും കരമിളവുചെയ്തുതരേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണു. കരം ഇളവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ലിസ്റ്റു് തയ്യാറാക്കുന്ന റവന്യൂ ഉദ്യോഗ സ്ഥന്മാർ ഈ വക കാര്യങ്ങൾ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN (*Kunnatnad cum Parur*): വട ക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണോ മെംബർ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നതു്?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : എന്നു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞില്ല. കൃഷി ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു് വേണ്ട സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ എല്ലാവക്കും ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കണം. കാർഷികോല്പന്നങ്ങളെ പല രൂപത്തിലായി വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചാൽമാത്രമെ അ തിൽനിന്നും പണംകിട്ടുകയുള്ളൂ. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇന്നത്തെ ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറ് അവർകളുടെ അഭീഷ്ടം അനുസരിച്ചു് പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതാ യാൽ കൃഷിക്കു വേണ്ടസൗകര്യം ഇവിടെ ലഭിക്കുമെന്നതന്നെയാണു് ഞങ്ങൾ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നതു്.

കുളം കുഴിക്കുന്നതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് തയ്യാറാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള ചില എസ്റ്റിമേറുകൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറു അനുവദിക്കാതെ കിടക്കുന്നു എന്നു് ഓ വർസീയർമാർ പറയുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതു് വാസ്തവമാണെങ്കിൽ ആ കുള ങ്ങൾ ഈ ആണ്ടിൽതന്നെ വെട്ടിക്കഴിക്കണ്ണം. ആ എസ്റ്റിമേറുകളെ ഉടൻതന്നെ അനുവദിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. വേലയും കൂലിയുംകിട്ടാതെ അ നേകം സാധുക്കൾ ഇപ്പോൾ കഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടു ജീവിച്ചുവരുന്നുണ്ടു്. തെക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒട്ടധികം കുളങ്ങൾ വെട്ടിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യംഉണ്ടു്. മുൻപു പത്തുരൂപകൊണ്ടു ചെയ്തീർക്കുന്നജോലി ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരുരൂപക്കു

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

ചെയ്യുതീക്കാൻ ധാരാളം ആളുകൾ കിട്ടും. കുളംകുഴിക്കുന്നജോലി ഇപ്പോൾ ചെയ്യാൻ തുടങ്ങുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അതു സുലഭമായി ചെയ്യുതീക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതും സാധുക്കളായ കൂലിവേലക്കാക്ക് അതു ഒരു ഉപജീവനമാർഗ്ഗമായിത്തീരുന്നതുമാണ്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ദയാദൃഷ്ടി ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ പതിഞ്ഞു കാണാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഇതുയും സംഗതികൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടു മിസ്റ്റർ നാരായണപെരുമാൾ നാടാർ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): The average rainfall during the last 25 years is only 87·93 inches whereas it was 166 inches when dam was constructed. It has dwindled down to half. Therefore, Sir, the matter requires scientific investigation. The probable reasons for such fall have already been mentioned on the floor of this House, and I do not want to repeat them. The clearing of the forests around the catchment area and the registry of some lands there, are the main causes that have contributed to the decrease of the rainfall. During the Budget session Government assured us that these would be stopped in future.

Sir, as an urgent need to afford relief to the suffering ryots I would suggest the improvement of tanks and that has to be done immediately. Many estimates for such work were not passed by the superior officers of the department in time for inclusion in the budget. I am sure at present they may be found either in the Division or Sub-Division Offices or in the Office of the Chief Engineer. It is urgently necessary that such estimates are passed without further delay, and the works proceeded with immediately. In regard to those included in the budget, the works have to be started at once. There are yet other tanks which have been left to be investigated by the Special Irrigation Officer. This officer has yet to acquaint himself with local conditions. I would therefore submit that, all the pending applications are dealt with by the respective Section Officers concerned who may be asked to submit immediate reports, so that these works also may be taken up immediately. If all this is done, nearly one-half of the tanks in the three taluks would be restored.

The improvement work done in tanks at present is far from satisfactory. As the law stands, one cannot find fault with the officers of the P. W. D. because, the silt that is removed from the tanks is not allowed to be put on the adjacent lands if the adjacent owners do not permit. I hope necessary provision for that would be made in the irrigation Regulation Amendment Bill which is now pending consideration by this House. However the P. W. D. officers would do well to see that the removed silt is not accumulated on the tank bunds, in such a way so that, during the next rains they may again be washed back into the tank beds.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

When a simslar motion was moved in the State Council, the Revenue Commissioner, on behalf of the Government seems to have said:

"In the course of the discussion, one or two suggestions were made to improve the capacity of the reservoir. I must confess that that is a matter in which the Chief Engineer would be in a better position to answer. But I understand from him that there are proposals under consideration to increase the present storage capacity of the Kodayar reservoir by 25 per cent. As regards the question or wastage of water, I am told that action is being taken to make the dam leak-proof."

I take it therefore that something has been done in that direction. In regard to the increasing of the storage capacity of the reservoir, I infer from the statement which I have just now read, that there is some definite proposal before the Government. If so I do believe that it would be carried into effect as early as possible. We have also been told that, some years ago, an Italian Engineer was specially asked to investigate the question and to submit a report as to the possibility of increasing the storage capacity of the Reservior. Unfortunately, that report is still treated as confidential, although from time to time, we have been asking for information on the matter. Mr. Arumugam Pillai asked an interpellation about it, in the First Council ; and the answer given was that the matter was under consideration. At the beginning of the present Assembly, I asked a question, and the very same reply was given. That shows that the matter has been pending with the Government for nearly four years.

PRESIDENT : I may inform the honourable member that the report has been considered and the matter has been dealt with.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : I thank the Government for that information.

PRESIDENT : I do not think the honourable member will find much room for thankfulness if he comes to know of the contents of the report or of the value the Government have attached to it.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Any way, Sir, if there is any work that is to be done as recommended by the Italian Engineer or by anybody else that work also should be done as early as possible. The gravity of the situation has been made clear by the mere fact that H. H. the Maha Raja and H. H. the Maharani were graciously pleased to visit South Travancore just a few months ago, when the last crops failed. I shall also give some figures to show what the real postition is.

The area irrigated by the Project is about 56,000 acres, according to official figures. Taking the average yield per acre to be 7 kottas, the total yield comes to 3,92,000 kottas roughly : and, taking the price per kotta to be Rs. 4, the total value comes to Rs. 15,68,000. And that is the loss in one crop, so that, for the two crops in the year, we loose Rs. 31,00,000 odd, in the shape of produce. Taking the cost of cultivation, labour, ploughing, etc., to be Rs. 10 per acre, it is between 10 to 50 rupees, the total loss in that direction works out at Rs. 5,60,000 per crop, or Rs. 11 lakhs odd per annum. And, yet Sir, somehow or other we have to eat and live. Assuming that a person requires 1 ch.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. C. Jebamony Nadar.]

worth of rice per day, the people in Nanjanad and Edanad require Rs. 52,00,000 odd per year, since the population of the three taluks, according to the Census Report, is 4,05,631.

Sir, these figures indicate the seriousness of our hard plight. And, this is not the first time that the crops have failed. Last season, the same thing happened. In Kumbom 1110, there was failure of crops. In 1111, the Kanni crop failed. In 1113, both the Kanni and the Kumbhom crops have failed. Thus during the last four years, we have had 4 failures of crops. We cannot bear this any longer. The purses of these ryots have become empty long ago. Their granaries also are completely empty. The present position is that we may have to keep our stomachs also empty.

South Travancore is a purely agricultural country; we have practically no industry. In the Census Report, I find the following very pertinent observation:—

> "Practically the whole of Travancore, except the three taluks in the extreme South, has sufficient rainfall. In those three taluks, the deficiency is made up by artificial irrigation from the Kodayar Project."

So, that is our main and only source for the supply of water for all purposes, and that has miserably failed. Therefore, Sir, some relief should be given to us immediately. The circumstances are such that we cannot afford to wait for the next budget. Sir, we are not asking for any luxury. All that we want is something like bare starvation maintenance. I would therefore once again appeal to the Government to restore the tanks immediately and to increase the storage capacity of the reservoir at once without waiting for the next budget.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Did the Government grant any concessions on former occasions when the crops failed?

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Yes. Land tax and water cess were remitted. For this year also the prayer has already been made by the other members who spoke on this motion.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: Sir, before I proceed to speak a few words on the motion before the House, I may content myself by referring to the remarks made by my colleague the member for Agastiswaram and Tovala, Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar. It is true, Sir, that sometime ago there was an irrigation central board which was brought into being by a certain set of rules. Now the rules are still there but there is no irrigation central board; For the last two and a half years at any rate there has been no irrigation central board at all, nor was any initiative taken by the respective heads of departments in the matter of setting up that board. So, in a sense what Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar said was true. The rules are there and also what Mr. Sesha Aiyar said is true. There is no board. I do not know who is responsible for that.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

With regard to the remark made by Mr. Nadar that the distribution of water at the time when the reservoir read 29 or 80 feet was not properly done, I must say, Sir, in all fairness to me and to the ryots of Nanjinad and the officer concerned that the distribution of water was most satisfactory. It was a matter which was highly appreciated by the Nanjinad public, particularly by the ryots. Sir, I refer to the period Mr. Sesha Aiyar was at Nagercoil. It was our misfortune that he who was the Executive Engineer sometime back of the Nagercoil Division has been suddenly transferred to Trivandrum as Deputy Chief Engineer, and, I must record here my high appreciation and sense of deep gratitude to Mr. Sesha Aiyar in the matter of supplying water to the ryots and that most efficiently. I should say that he took almost the interest of a selfless worker, as we have come across a few instances in British India. He took interest not as an officer but as a person who felt with the ryots and who was out to carry consolation to the ryots. Of course, he might not have been able to give full satisfaction because there was not enough water. But the ryots were impressed with the sincerity of and the pains taken by Mr. Sesha Aiyar to supply water wherever it was possible and necessary.

This apart Sir, I may say that this House has not realised the real situation at present in Nanjinad. Yesterday, when an interpellation was put to the member in charge of the P. W. D. the Land Revenue Commissioner was found seated by the side of him. When by way of answer Mr. Sesha Aiyar said that a recommendation to cut off 25,000 acres of land has been already made to the Government for want of water in the tail-end reservoir. I was keenly observing what Mr. George had to say. He was shaking his head as it were by way of disapproval. I was more than disappointed when I saw that.

PRESIDENT: I do not think that honourable members can go too far in the matter of inferences.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: All the same I may be permitted to draw my inference.

MR. K. GEORGE: I did not follow it.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: When Mr. Sesha Aiyar in the course of his answer to my supplementary question said that the department had recommended to Government that 25,000 acres of land may be cut off from further watering, Mr. George, Land Revenue Commissioner was found at least putting his head this way and that, crosswise.

MR. K. GEORGE: What is the inference the member makes?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. At present we are, I think, concerned with the agricultural situation in Nanjinad and the inclination of Mr. George's head is rather distant from the centre of occurrence.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: My point is that our distress is not realised to the full. It is not considered as a serious matter even by the Government officer concerned.

MR. K. GEORGE: It may be, Sir, that he was himself staggered by the information.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: Order, order; I think we can now quit psychology and proceed with Nanjinad.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: While I was conversing with certain members of this House as regards the present condition of Nanjinad, some members exhibited abject ignorance of the affairs in Nanjinad. I am not sorry because they are not fully posted with information regarding Nanjinad. One member said—"Of course it is true that there is no rain in Nanjinad. But in the whole of central and North Travancore also there is no rain." It appeared to me, Sir, that the member had the impression that there is no difference between a rainless Nanjinad and a rainless Central or North Travancore. In order just to point out the present condition of Nanjinad, I may mention to the House certain facts. It is true that His Highness the Maharaja recognising the magnitude of the distress in Nanjinad, feeling one with the people who are suffering there in Nanjinad, visited the places and the Dewan actuated with the best of feelings, generosity and a sense of responsibility as the Head of the Administration graciously announced the remission to the tune of a lakh and 9 thousand rupees. For that, we are all indebted to His Highness the Maharaja and we are deeply loyal, as we are historically loyal, and loyal to the very core. That is one circumstance which I want the House to remember. Secondly, this time also Mr. Sesha Aiyar said that he had recommended to cut off 25,000 acres from further supply of water. These two circumstances, Sir, do naturally make out a case for Nanjinad, that the people there are undergoing acute suffering, at any rate for the last two crops. It is within the knowledge of this House that the depression set in from 1105 onwards but in the case of Nanjinad it set in from 1102 onwards. Not only has Nanjinad been suffering from failure of season but it has had its throat cutting competative prices of paddy. Sometimes the price came down even to Rs. 2-12 as. per kottah. These three circumstances I want the House to bear in mind before I proceed further.

Sir, Dewan Ramiengar of revered memory had remarked in his settlement memorandum, para 8, regarding Nanjinad ryots. Let us see what he says.

"The assessment on Nanjinad lands is so heavy that the first bad season reduces them to a struggle for existence." The latter portion has got to be remembered. That in Nanjinad the assessment is heavy is undisputed and is accepted by all. On the floor of this House the Dewan President has unequivocally stated more than once that Nanjinad compared to other parts of the State is the most heavily burdened with land taxation. That portion I need not lay strees upon. But the latter portion I will impress upon the House—"The first bad season reduces them to a struggle for existence." Sir I ask whether this is the first bad season for Nanjinad or whether this is the second or even the third bad season for Nanjinad. From the year 1102 onwards repeatedly there has been failure of monsoon. It is a matter of common knowledge and I need hardly stress the point. Nanjinad depends more upon

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the monsoon than upon the Pechipara reservoir. The House may be pleased to remember this. Some members have understood that Pechipara is a *Kamadhenu* for Nanjinad. As a matter of fact, it has been found in actual experience that it is not so. I would maintain that Nanjinad depends more upon seasonal rain, more upon the monsoon than upon the reservoir. Granting that it is the position, what is the present condition of Nanjinad ? After the completion of the Pechipara Reservoir, the Government adopted a most stupid policy of auctioning away all available tank beds. There was considerable agitation at the time against the auctioning of these tank beds. The ryots made representations to Government and waited in deputation on the Dewan and on His Highness the Maharaja. It was of no avail. The Government still persisted in that stupid policy just to get money in a lump sum, so stupidly to put all the tank-beds in auction. Now for want of tanks to irrigate lands, there is loss and suffering; who is responsible for this, I ask, Sir. Are the Nanjinad ryots responsible or are the Government themselves responsible ?

PRESIDENT: Government have announced their policy in the matter.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir, the word 'stupidly' was used by the member in characterising the action of Government In May's "Parliamentary Practice" it is stated that it is quite unparliamentary. I want a ruling from the chair on the point of order raised by me.

PRESIDENT: Government can be characterised as stupid. That has been done before. Individuals cannot be characterised as stupid but Government can be.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI: So, these are the facts to be remembered, before I proceed to suggest certain constructive suggestions so that Government may deeply ponder over and immediately hasten to the rescue of the Nanjinad ryots.

Now, what is the present rate of taxation in Nanjinad ? I would not have referred to this but for the fact that last time when I had no opportunity to refute it, Mr. George, the Land Revenue Commissioner said that the average taxation in Nanjinad is about Rs. 10 per acre. But I will make a decent present to him of the Kodayar Project papers. In Vol. II it is stated—I am referring to the channel fed lands—that in Tovala Taluk the average rate of assessment is Rs. 21-14 chs. 7 c. per acre, in Agastiswaram it is Rs. 19-16 ch. 7 c. in Edanad, the average for Kalkulam and Eranniel is Rs. 15-10 ch. 7 c. The Government themselves in para 4 of their Administration Report for 1079 accept that the correct standard should be the assessment on pattom lands and not that on other lands. Of course, Mr. George may ask me to put all the tail-end lands as well on which 10 chs. 12 chs. 13 chs, or 14 chs. have been assessed and then strike the average. But I ask him to accept the principle laid down in the Administration Report for 1079, *i. e.*, to take into consideration only Pattom lands.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai.]

Now let us turn to the other side of the ghats in British India immediately adjoining Nanjinad. Sir, it is known to all who have taken pains to understand that Tinnevelly District of all districts in the Madras Presidency is the most heavily taxed district. Even there the highest rate of taxation is Rs. 20-1 as 9 ps. The average rate of taxation in each district of the Madras Presidency was calculated; and it was found as follows. For the Madras Presidency the average tax in Tinnevelly District is Rs. 9-1 as 6 p. That is the highest district average, that is in Tinnevelly District and the lowest district average is in the Nilgiris which is Re. 1 and odd.

On the northern side of Nanjinad, *viz.*, in Kalkulam and Eraniel put together the average tax is Rs. 15-10-0 *i. e.*, it is three-fourths of the Nanjinad average which is Rs. 20 and odd. Yet Honourable members of this House would make no difference between North Travancore and South Travancore particularly Nanjinad, which is the most heavily taxed in the world.

Nanjinad is treated differently by Government always. In the matter of grain measure, on account of the wilful, or otherwise, miscalculation on the part of the officers of Government, Nanjinad is asked to pay one-fourth more than what they need legitimately pay according to the settlement measure and proclamation. I shall give a concrete instance. Suppose there is a dividing border between Nanjinad and Kalkulam. Let the border be an irrigation channel. On the western side of the channel *i. e.* Kalkulam, which may be taxed in first *tharam* classification the tax is only Rs. 15 an acre; on the eastern side which is also classed on first *tharam* the tax is Rs. 20 an acre. Why should there by a difference between the same class of land irrigated by the same water and giving the same kind of paddy certainly it is not 'gold' paddy on the one side and 'lead' paddy on the other side. Is it because it happens to be in Kalkulam it is assessed to a lesser rate of taxation. No. It is accepted to be a mistake in calculation. This mistake has been repeatedly pointed out to Government. Yet what Government would say is that we should wait till the next-settlement. By the time the settlement operations are begun and completed our fate in Nanjinad would have been settled already. So I hope the Honourable members would realise the acute situation in Nanjinad. Nanjinad was once the granary of Travancore. But now drought is the order of the day. It may be that the people of Nanjinad are mute and voiceless and are not conversant with modern methods of agitation They are mute and silent in their sufferings. Unless a paternal Government takes into their head to help them, their lot will be hopeless and desperate.

PRESIDENT: With such advocacy as is heard here, Nanjinad does not suffer for lack of advocacy.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, we in Nanjinad are even elbowed out from educational activities. The number of primary schools in Nanjinad is dwindling. Our defective primary schools are not allowed to be rectified but stopped altogether. Our voice is not effective enough to catch the attention of the Government.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The motion relates to Nanjinad irrigation.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, I am pointing out our difficulties. Even departmental officers are indifferent to the legitimate claims of Nanjinad. I do not know whether there is any conspiracy against us and ask Sir, " why not executive order be issued immediately to rectify the accepted error in the conversion of the Nanjinad marakal measure into para measure why should it be postponed till the next settlement operations ? If there is a mistake in calculation, why not an order be given immediately correcting it and thus save the Nanjinad ryots from being extorted one-fourth in excess of what is legally due from them by way of land tax. With these facts before them, the Government say while the ryots suffer on account of continuous drought where crop has really failed, remission may be granted. But they do not care to ask who will hold himself responsible for the loss incurred by the ryot ? Again they say where there is fallow, fallow remission may be granted. Sir, I ask them and appeal to the Government not to have recourse to hair-spliting arguments, I want them to have the heart to feel for the ryots.

It may be asked that a reduction of tax in Nanjinad may be also a justification for asking for a reduction in other parts of Travancore. How can that be justified ? Nanjinad is not Central or North Travancore. However much we cry hoarse Government are not pleased to move and redress the wrong and also grant remission of tax. In a recent communique issued by Government all these things namely excessive assessment, wrong calculation in computation of ' marakal ' into ' parah ' measure are accepted. But it is said that they will be considered at the time of the next Settlement. That is really not an answer by a Government which claim to be civilised or which has a heart to feel for the poor suffering people. Therefore I request that if water cannot be supplied to all the lands, those survey numbers to which water cannot be supplied may be cut off even now so that they may not be asked to pay tax. If there is no water, the Government can even now say that it is not possible to supply water to all lands and also specify the lands so cut off from supply. But they are not prepared to say that now. Perhaps I am afraid the Government may again demand a fee like the fee they demanded last year for advising ryots not to cultivate. This does not require any expert knowledge. Where there is no water the ryots themselves will not cultivate but allow the lands to lie fallow. What is the justification for demanding payment of tax on fallow lands. Mr. George may say that there is no rule for fallow remissions, I ask, Sir, what is the morality about it ? Perhaps that immorality about it may be the reason why the Government subsequently allowed as it were a gift a very small remission on fallow lands last year. There is suffering enough in Nanjinad ; but insult also is added to them. Things are drifting to sheer desperation and the Nanjinad ryots are being exterminated. If a notification

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai.]

is not published that full remission will be granted this year and that supply of water will be cut off from specified area of paddy lands, people will be in a tense and anxious mood as to what to do. Let there be immediate relief.

With regard to constructive suggestions as stated by Mr. Jebamoney Nadar, it is true that restoration of tank-beds may be taken up in hand. If Government are not able to allot 49 or 50 lakhs of rupees all on a sudden, they may inaugurate a policy of five year plan and improve the irrigation channels in Nanjinad. For example the Malakattukulam reservoir near the Aramboly frontier will be one of the most successful schemes. The Mukkadal has been taken up by the Nagercoil Municipality. The Poikamala reservoir is capable of irrigating about 10,000 acres of land. Then there is the much talked off Chittar scheme. I do not know what has become of that. Any of these schemes may be taken up by Government immediately as a constructive measure along with restoration of tanks. Finally I ask that a full remission should be given for this year to Nanjinad ryots. That will give the ryots some hope that there is a paternal Government who will look after their needs whether they agitate or not. The five year plan may also be taken up by Government. Otherwise it will not be possible to give relief to the ryots. With the hope that the Government will immediately do grant unstinting remission to Nanjinad ryots, I resume my seat.

MR S. SESHA AIYAR: Sir, first I have to thank the honourable member Mr. Sivathanu Pillai for expressing in appreciative terms the work of the irrigation staff in distributing water in Nanjinad last year and this year. The honourable member Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar levelled against the department the very serious charge of careless distribution of water. That point has been answered by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: But his answer was not satisfactory.

MR. S. SESHA IYER: Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar stated that the Pechippara reservoir had 30 ft. of water to begin with during the cultivation season. That is tantamount to 60 per cent of the total supply of water in the reservoir when full. One full reservoir will be sufficient for the cultivation of lands in Nanjinad for one crop for only 25,000 acres. The total area under cultivation in Nanjinad is about 60,000 acres. The water for cultivation has to come from Pechippara. Therefore, we require about two and one-fourth times the reservoir full to cultivate one single crop of 60,000 acres. So with 30 ft. of water or 60 per cent of the full reservoir, it is possible to cultivate only 15,000 acres or one-fourth of the total area of Nanjinad. From this the House may know how the distribution of water was done and to what extent the charge of carelessness can be attributed to the department.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

About the failure of Pechippara reservoir the honourable member Mr. Sivatanu Pillai explained it to some extent. As the monsoon failed, water was not available in the reservoir. If there is no rain, the catchment area will yield no water.

The Pechippara reservoir was constructed about 35 years ago after a careful investigation and consultation with successive Engineers of British India, The work was suspended during one or two stages on account of difference of opinion among the successive Engineers. Further expert opinion was called for and the work was proceeded with. There is no fault either with the site of the reservoir or in the workmanship of it.

Mr. Jebamony Nadar stated that before the Pechippara dam was constructed, the rainfall was about 166 inches whereas the average rainfall recorded tor the past 6 or 8 years being about 87 inches. I have to say that the observation of about 166 inches of rainfall was not utilised in the calculation for the construction of a dam there. It is true that that observation was recorded for a few years at a time when the rainfall happened to be abnormal. If there is rain to the extent of 30 inches, the catchment area will yield water sufficient for irrigation purposes. In times of abnormal rain, all the excess water available naturally goes as waste into the sea.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Is the member aware of the extract about the Pechippara dam recorded in the Travancore Directory for 1938 ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER I take the member's version to be correct.

PRESIDENT : I think the official member will kindly indicate the step that the Government proposes to take immediately in the matter ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : Yes, Sir.

The Government are fully aware of the scarcity of water in the Pechippara reservoir. Investigation is proceeding to supplement the natural resources of water. There is a sub-division officer 2 supervisors and other staff for investigation work working for the past 2 months about.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : May I know the nature of the investigation work ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER ; The possibility of increasing the existing storage is being explored. The existing tanks in certain localities will be cleared of silt so that they can contain more water. The banks of the existing tanks will be improved to avoid leakage of water as far as possible. The fore-shore of the irrigation tanks will be formed into tank proper wherever necessary to conserve water to a larger extent. As soon as investigstion is finished, estimates will be prepared and the work proceeded with immediately. The sluices of channels in certain localities are being set right. Some arrangement is being made for carrying water to the tail end of channels in times of difficulties. Some additional

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. S. Sesha Iyer.]

tanks are being constructed wherever possible for even distribution of water to all parts of the area for cultivation purposes. By this means secarcity of water in some parts of the channels will be mended.

MR. M. KESAVA PANICKAR (*Neyyattinkara* cum *Trivandrum*) : Is Neyyattinkara taluk included in investigation ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : At present the investigation is confined to Nanjinad alone.

MR. M. KESAVA PANICKAR : Does the member know that area also is in a distressing condition in regard to water supply for cultivation purposes ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : The investigation will be proceeded with in that area also.

There is a proposal to form subsidiary reservoirs in the Parali river basin. Investigation is proceeding with regard to the Perinjani reservoir. Some improvements are contemplated to the Puthen Dam by raising its level.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : When will that begin ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : It is only in the investigation process.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : How much time will the investigation take ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : Not very long. Within a period of 6 months it is proposed to complete the investigation work and prepare the necessary estimates so that the work may be put on hand soon.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI : How does the Department propose to combat diminution in water on account of the low rainfall ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : In one year there may be abundance of rain and in another, less.

PRESIDENT : Will the member make the point about the original observation of 166 inches of rainfall which was by no means clearly demonstrable clear ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : Probably, the observation recorded about 166 inches of rainfall during one or two years was a correct figure. But they might have been exceptional years. That had not much to do with regard to the construction of the dam.

Another proposal for relieving the distress of scarcity in water is by sinking irrigation wells. I know that in places bordering Panagudi in British frontier, such wells have been constructed and the experiment is a success. The same is proposed to be done in Nanjinad also.

In fact, there are a few wells already existing and the ryots are using them. Near the British frontier there are wells and they are being used for irrigation purposes and advantage will be taken of those wells for constructing as many wells as possible in this area as well as in other areas.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI : May I know for how many years the water in the Pechippara Reservoir was found sufficient for the irrigation of the Ayacut area and when the difficulty began to be felt ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. S. SESHA IYER : As I said before, the periods of scarcity of rainfall or over-abundance of rain fall differ. In the years 1098 and 1099 we had abundant rain so much so that we had to waste four or five times the capacity of the Pechippara Reservoir. Government had also to spend hundreds and thousands of rupees for closing breaches in the tanks and channels which breached. The reservoir has not been able to maintain its full capacity during these recent years.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI : In view of that fact, may I know why Government allowed the unregistered lands to be silted away and other areas given in auction ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : About the policy of auctioning away tank-beds, I may say that when the Pechippara Project was started the Government had under contemplation of irrigating only 25 to 30 thousand acres of land.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : May I know whether it was intended to irrigate those Ayacut lands in and around ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : No, Sir. As time went on when people found that Pechippara had abundant water, more water than was required, they began to convert dry lands into wet lands.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Was not the Project contemplated to irrigate 62,000 odd acres of land ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : That is the utmost that the scheme could irrigate, assuming that there is rainfall of 160 inches.

As a result of the investigation for the last one or two months estimates to the extent of Rs. 10,000 has been prepared. Government have also kindly ordered the Division Officer to get on with this work in anticipation of sanction. The total amount of estimate in the course of preparation is for about Rs. 50,000. Government have given a grant of Rs. 25,000 for the present and they are prepared to allot more when this amount is spent.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : May I know whether the amount spent for the local investigation is to be deducted from this grant ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : This amount required for the investigation staff will at present be met from this grant of Rs. 25,000.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : വിളവംകോട് താലൂക്കിൽ ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷണം നടത്തുന്നതിന് പ്രത്യേകം വല്ല സ്റ്റാഫും അനുവദിക്കുകയൊന്നുമില്ലേ? എസ്റ്റിമേറ്റു തയ്യാറാക്കുകയോ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : വിളവംകോട് താലൂക്കിൽ ഇതോടുകൂടിത്തന്നെ അന്വേഷണം നടത്തുന്നതാണ്.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : May I know whether investigation is conducted about the Perinchani Reservoir ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : Investigation is being conducted.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI : While doing works in these parts of the country, does the member realise that there are other tracts where irrigation facilities are necessary ?

MR. S. SESHA IYER : There is the Irrigation Division which as extending its activities to other parts of the State.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know what became of the Chittar scheme?

MR. S. SESHA IYER: That has not been given up.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know what steps have been taken with regard to the Manakuddy Reservoir?

MR. S. SESHA IYER: Nothing has been done about this reservoir. They are being taken up one by one.

PRESIDENT: Before putting this matter to vote, I think I have to explain that, as has already been stated by the Deputy Chief Engineer, Government are fully aware of the difficulties of the situation and the urgency of the matter. They have made up their mind to proceed with the investigation as rapidly as circumstances permit and to allow works to be proceeded with in anticipation of formal sanction of estimates. For the purpose of obtaining water near the tail end or the middle of these channels where cultivation is being carried on, experiments will be immediately started to see whether the system of well irrigation cannot, to a certain extent, be employed. In addition to it, the question of improving and starting new tanks and of repairing and clearing the silt from existing reservoirs is engaging the attention of the Government. Orders have been given that work should proceed night and day taking advantage of the abundance of cheap labour available just now. In these circumstances, I trust, it will be clear to the House that Government are not unalive to the responsibility of the situation.

Now the question is whether the Honourable Members who have given notice of the adjournment motion wish to press it or not.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I withdraw the motion.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: I wish to have a reply on the lines of the remission of tax.

PRESIDENT: I do not think it is possible to give a reply in that direction immediately.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: In view of the assurance given by the Chair, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I withdraw the motion.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

RESULT OF THE ELECTION TO THE SENATE.

PRESIDENT: I have to announce the result of the election that was held for the purpose of choosing members for the Senate. Mr. Thanu Pillai gets 39 votes, Mr. Kainikara M. Padmanabha Pillai gets 32 and Mr. N. V. Joseph 25 and these three are declared elected.

The House will now adjourn, but I must tell the members that they cannot make arrangements to leave for their homes. In all probability, they will have to meet on Tuesday the 1st of February. So provisionally I may say that the House will meet on Tuesday. Notices will be sent to the local addresses of Honourable Members.

The House adjourned at 5 P. M.

E. I. CHACKO,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly